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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Denisa **Hutănová** (Slovakia)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendation made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 136 appears in the report of the Committee contained in document A/59/527.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 47th, 48th and 57th meetings, on 2 and 3 May and 8 June 2005. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/59/SR.47, 48 and 57).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the budget of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/59/635 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 (A/59/758 and Corr.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed donation of assets of the Mission to the Government of Sierra Leone (A/59/759);

(d) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/59/736 and Add.9).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/59/L.67

4. At its 57th meeting, on 8 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" (A/C.5/59/L.67), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of the Bahamas.

5. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee pointed out a correction to be made to operative paragraph 18 of the draft resolution, replacing the number "17" with the number "16".

6. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/59/L.67, as orally corrected, without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1562 (2004) of 17 September 2004,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and subsequent resolutions on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, the latest of which was resolution 59/14 of 29 October 2004,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of the Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of resolution 59/___, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone as at 15 April 2005, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 94.5 million United States dollars, representing some 3 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only forty-three Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every

[1] A/59/635 and Corr.1, A/59/758 and Corr.1 and A/59/759.

[2] A/59/736 and Add.9.

possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolution 59/__;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004

13. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004;[4]

14. *Decides* to reduce the appropriation authorized for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 under the terms of its resolution 57/291 B of 18 June 2003 from 543,489,900 dollars to 509,436,300 dollars, the amount apportioned among Member States in respect of the same period;

[3] A/59/736/Add.9.

[4] A/59/635 and Corr.1.

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

15. *Decides also* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone the amount of 113,216,400 dollars, inclusive of 89,606,400 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2005, 17,932,900 dollars for the liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2006, 4,642,100 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 1,035,000 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation

16. *Decides further* to apportion among Member States the amount of 113,216,400 dollars at a monthly rate of 9,434,700 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2005 and 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

17. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 4,047,700 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 3,307,800 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006, the prorated share of 656,100 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 83,800 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

18. *Decides also* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the amount of 54,054,600 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2004, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2004, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B;

19. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the amount of 54,054,600 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2004, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 18 above;

20. *Decides* that the increase of 239,200 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2004 shall be added to the credits from the amount of 54,054,600 dollars referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above;

Donation of assets to the Government of Sierra Leone

21. *Approves* the donation of the assets of the Mission, with a total inventory value of 8,406,072 dollars and corresponding residual value of 3,829,178 dollars, to the Government of Sierra Leone;

22. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

23. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

24. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".